

**Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)
Governor's Tribal Leaders Roundtable Update Report
12/10/08**

Follow Up on Issues Discussed at Prior Meeting

Access to Dialysis Services:

In response to concerns raised around access to dialysis services, ADHS Director, January Contreras, sought the assistance of the University of Arizona College of Public Health. The College agreed to assign two graduates to research the availability of dialysis services and best practices that exists around the world to provide greater access to people in non-urban areas of the State. The students are expected to present their findings and analysis in mid-December. At that time, Director Contreras will work with the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to discuss the findings and bring back information to the following Tribal Leader Roundtable.

Kaibab-Paiute Tribal Behavioral Health Services Questions:

At the last Tribal Leaders Roundtable, Chairwoman Ona Segundo raised issues regarding a lack of services to support youth. Michael Branham, Director, Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) worked with Chairwoman Segundo to arrange a multi-agency meeting held on 11/14/08. During the meeting three key issues were discussed: 1) Suicide Prevention Services, 2) Direct AHCCCS billing, and 3) Youth Residential Placement. Representatives in attendance and on teleconference were from ADHS, AHCCCS, Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority, Page Community Behavioral Health Services, ADJC, tribal behavioral health contractor, Phoenix Area Indian Health Service, a Tribal Judge, tribal health and finance staff, Vice Chairwoman Bradley and Chairwoman Segundo. Follow up action plans with the respective agencies were agreed to for all three areas however funding source for the residential placement was not identified.

Hualapai Tribal Request for Suicide Prevention Assistance:

At the request of Marnie Hodahkwen, Michael Allison ADHS Native American Liaison and Carol Chicharello AHCCCS Tribal Liaison put together a 24/7 Suicide Crisis Intervention proposal to be presented to the Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority. A meeting was held in Peach Springs on 10/30/08 to discuss the proposal. Representatives in attendance and on the telephone were from ADHS, AHCCCS, Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority, Mohave Mental Health, Phoenix Area Indian Health Service, tribal behavioral health staff, Tribal Police Chief, one Tribal Council member and Sandra Irwin, Tribal health director. The outcome of the meeting was an

understanding of the need for suicide prevention activities targeting youth elementary age children. To be more tribal specific the proposal will be modified into a Tribal Multi-Agency Crisis Response Team concept. Upon revision of the proposal a follow up meeting will be held at Peach Springs.

Operational Report

Division of Public Health Services

Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Control

Comprehensive Cancer Program

Goal: Establish and strengthen relationships with Native American communities and organizations.

Actions Taken:

- Quarterly Cancer Coalition meeting: Laura Tillman, MD, Phoenix Indian Medical Center presented “Whole Again, A Breast Reconstruction Program Designed Specifically for Native American Women Undergoing Mastectomy for Breast Cancer”.
- Appointed Kenton Laffoon, Program Director, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. to the Comprehensive Cancer Steering Committee in June.
- American Indian Matrix a product of the data committee of the Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. is being reviewed internally by ADHS staff prior to distribution.
- Comprehensive Cancer Program staff participated in the following:
 - “Arizona Retreat For Enhancing Tribal Collaborations 2008” held in Flagstaff, June 25-26
 - Tohono O’odham Cancer Planning and Prevention Subcommittee meetings
 - “Colorectal Cancer Screening Knowledge, Attitudes & Beliefs, of Navajo Elders, Focus Group Results” on 10/10/08 sponsored by Arizona Cancer Center.
 - Arizona Myeloma Network in the AzMN Fort Defiance First Annual Cancer Awareness and Advocacy Conference

Outcomes:

- Dr. Tillman’s presentation - survey of program was excellent and speaker was rated the highest (5) by 80 % of those who completed the survey and the next highest (4) by 17 %.
- Tohono O’odham Cancer Planning Committee - development of cancer control plan document and goals and strategies for the Prevention committee.

Upcoming activities/plans:

- Tohono O'odham Cancer Planning - complete Prevention section of plan.
- Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. to host the January, 2009 Cancer Steering Committee Meeting and to showcase program and facility.
- Cancer Coalition Health Disparities Committee is developing a strategy to engage community leaders and to design a toolkit for sustaining education effort.

Arizona Diabetes Program

Goal: Establish and strengthen relationships with Native American communities and organizations.

Actions taken:

- Two abstracts from Native American communities were accepted and presented at the July 18 Arizona Diabetes Coalition meeting: 1) "Monitoring and Access in the Navajo Nation (WiMANN)"; and 2) "Inner Sole, Balanced Soul Diabetes Foot Clinic".
- The Arizona Diabetes Program staff met with the new nurse practitioner, Patricia Mackey and Cheryl Litzen, Health Educator, at Native Health on September 24.
- The Arizona Diabetes Program staff met with ten (10) representatives from the Navajo Special Diabetes Program (NSDP) October 16. Michael Allison, ADHS Native American Liaison, arranged and facilitated the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to share information about programs including activities and interventions being implemented and to learn how both programs could work together.
- The Navajo Special Diabetes Program provided an exhibit at the October 17 Arizona Diabetes Coalition meeting. Nineteen representatives from Navajo attended this meeting.
- Arizona Diabetes Program presented materials at the 2008 Phoenix Area Tribal, Urban, IHS Diabetes Nutrition Workshop, the Path to a Healthier You on September 29 & 30.
- Arizona Diabetes Program staff attended planning meetings for the Healthy Lifestyle event that the Muevete Guadalupe group held on November 15. The program also provided 180 diabetes health fair toolkits for this event. This community's population is mainly Pascua Yaqui.
- The Program distributed 175 diabetes self-management toolkits to Tohono O'odham August 2008.

Outcomes: A Native American representative will serve on the 2009 Arizona Diabetes Leadership Council.

Fruits and Vegetables – More Matters

Goal: Provision of resources to promote culturally appropriate messages to increase fruit and vegetable consumption among American Indians and Alaskan Natives.

Action taken: A 33 page resource guide was compiled between August, 2007 – September, 2008, with the assistance of state health departments from Idaho, New Mexico and Arizona, Indian Health Service throughout the country, Montana State University and many American Indian communities including the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona and Phoenix Indian Medical Center. It was released on June 3, 2008.

Outcomes: The document is available on the website of the Association of State and Territorial Nutrition Directors at www.astphnd.org under “hot new resources”. Exhibits and formal presentations on the resource guide have also been featured at both state and national conferences.

Well Woman Healthcheck Program (WWHP)

Goal: Establish relationships with Native American communities and increase access to breast and cervical cancer screening services for Native American women.

Actions Taken:

- Through the American Cancer Society Regional Grant, a mobile mammography unit was made available to provide breast cancer screening on the Navajo Nation. Results of that screening effort are pending.
- Program staff are working with CDC and the Hopi and Navajo tribes to create a history of how the current working relationship has developed over time with the possibility of developing a documentary DVD.
- Program staff have worked with both tribes to establish the linkage between the Arizona Cancer Registry and the tribes’ breast and cervical cancer data. This linkage is mandated by the CDC Breast and Cervical Early Detection Program.
- Virginia Warren is serving on the Tohono O’odham Nation’s Cancer Advisory Board supporting the Early Detection and Screening and Data committees.

Bureau of Women’s and Children’s Health

Injury Prevention Program

Goal: Establish relationships and build capacity on injury prevention initiatives.

Actions Taken:

- Tomi St. Mars is working with Indian Health Service to update the Safe Native American Passenger’s curriculum. This curriculum is designed to teach car seat safety to community members. The curriculum is distributed by IHS to

all their service units nationally. Ms. St. Mars was part of the original curriculum committee.

- Tomi St. Mars facilitated/taught a child passenger safety training in Yuma to benefit the Quechan and Cocopah community. Members of other tribal communities attended.
- Tomi St. Mars is working with Gila River Community Injury Prevention Program on child passenger safety initiatives.

Outcomes: The 2007 Child Fatality Report indicates a 1% decrease to American Indians from motor vehicle crashes.

Upcoming activities/plans: The Safe Native American Passenger (SNAP) curriculum will be pilot tested in Chinle, AZ in December for health care providers and law enforcement.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Goal: To reduce unplanned teen pregnancy and STD's in Arizona Native American teens.

Actions Taken:

- Contracted with the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) to provide Teen Pregnancy Prevention activities at Tohono O'odham (TON), San Lucy District, Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT), and Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation. A contract with the Navajo Nation is pending final signature from the tribe.
- ITCA is providing Wyman Teen Outreach Program (TOP) at all three sites. TON currently has 30 participants ages 11 to 19 actively attending two sessions per week at the San Lucy Health Office. CRIT has 20 participants age 11 to 18 attending two sessions per week at the CRIT Health Services building. Ft. McDowell has 40 participants attending three sessions a week at the Youth Activity Center.
- All three programs are partnering with various tribal health programs to integrate diabetes prevention activities, obesity awareness programming and HIV/STD prevention education into the Teen Outreach Program.

Outcomes: No outcomes have been reported at this time. Consistent attendance by youth along with verbal feed back from tribal members that the youth appear to be making more positive decisions/choices suggests that the program is achieving the desired outcomes.

Upcoming activities/plans: Pending funding, a release of a new Request for Grant Application (RFGA) to continue and expand Teen Outreach Programming to Native American teens is planned.

Health Start Program

Goal: To increase prenatal care services to pregnant women, reduce incidence of low birth weight births, reduce incidence of children receiving age appropriate immunizations and increase educational outreach to families.

Actions Taken: The Bureau of Women's and Children's Health (BWCH) has implemented the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Subcontract through the Northrop Grumman Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) FASD Center for Excellence. The FASD project involves two Health Start contractor sites that serve Native American communities. The sites are Native American Community Health Center in Phoenix and Northland Community Health Center in Flagstaff. The first 6 months of the project consisted of planning activities and completion of a needs assessment. The implementation phase began August 1, 2008. Training on alcohol screening and brief intervention techniques was held July 1, 2008. The training was opened to other agencies/programs working with pregnant women and two representatives from the Navajo Nation Fetal Alcohol prevention programs elected to participate. The sites have been conducting alcohol screening on all pregnant women in Health Start and providing a Brief Intervention to those who screen positive for alcohol use. By the end of September 2008, over 52 women had been screened.

Outcomes: The two pilot sites have conducted 73 alcohol screenings from August through October 2008. Out of 73 screenings, four (4) clients screened positive for current alcohol use and were given a Brief Intervention.

Bureau of Tobacco Education and Prevention (BTEP)

Goal: Support local projects in tribal communities in planning and implementing tobacco education and prevention programs.

Actions Taken:

- Request for Grant Application (RFGA) for Tribal Populations was issued in July 2008 seeking eligible entities to conduct community assessments to assist with capacity building and program planning for the development of sustainable commercial tobacco prevention programs with strategies implemented to reduce the level of commercial tobacco abuse in tribal communities. Applications are currently in the review/evaluation process. Timeframe unavailable as to when awards will be announced.
- Meetings were held on August 25th and September 17th with several tribal programs including ITCA seeking input regarding a media campaign targeting Native youth. Additionally, four (4) focus groups were conducted with youth in tribal communities to seek their input on posters about commercial tobacco. The focus groups were held in the following communities: Gila River Indian Community (10/2/08), Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation (10/6/08), Colorado River Indian Tribes (10/7/08), and Pascua Yaqui Tribe (10/9/08).

- BTEP Program Manager, Verna Johnson, provided an ADHS overview at the San Carlos Apache Tribe Health & Human Services Strategic Planning meeting in Payson, AZ on September 19, 2008.
- BTEP participated in the following meetings with tribal programs: Gila River Indian Community Tobacco Program on 6/24, 6/23, 7/23, 8/21, 8/28, 9/2, 10/9, 10/14, and 10/23, ITCA on June 6, June 20, July 9, ITCA Community Tobacco Advisory Council meeting on June 24, 2008, Tohono O'Odham Cancer Planning Committee meeting on June 18, 2008, and White Mountain Apache Tribe Tobacco Program on July 23, 2008

Outcomes: Decrease in the number of tribal members using commercial tobacco products.

Upcoming activities/plans: On November 24, 2008, BTEP staff will be meeting with Marnie Hodahkwen, Tribal Policy Advisor, and Gina Flores, Health Policy Advisor, in the Governor's Office.

Bureau of Epidemiology & Disease Control

Office of Infectious Disease Services

Goal: To support Tribes in infectious disease prevention and control, including disease surveillance, outbreak investigations, case management and mitigation measures; outreach and education; through technical guidance and financial and other support.

Actions Taken:

- The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) TB Control Program hosted the 14th Annual Four Corners TB & HIV Conference, held on October 28-29, 2008 in Flagstaff, Arizona. About 100 people attended the conference, which included representatives from tribal, county, state and federal health departments, and health care providers from the Four Corners region. The conference focused on the importance of public health infrastructure and the impact it has on preventing disease, managing TB and HIV, and promoting health at the tribal, local, state, and national levels. It emphasized the accomplishments and challenges of TB control in Native Americans in the Four Corners region.
- To date in 2008, 16 human cases of Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF) have been reported on two reservations: 9 cases on the San Carlos Apache Tribe Reservation and 7 cases on the White Mountain Apache Tribe Reservation. 2 deaths have been reported: one in an adult male and one in a 12-year-old child. The reason for the apparent increase in cases is that human case surveillance and follow-up and laboratory testing have improved greatly at the local level for both reservations. The ADHS Vector-borne and Zoonotic Disease Program has assisted the tribes on 5 site interventions (3 conducted since May 2008). Other partners include Indian Health Services

- The ADHS Vectorborne and Zoonotic Disease Program and the Arizona State Laboratory Virology Program provided West Nile Virus (WNV) surveillance assistance with regards to identifying and testing mosquito samples to at least 11 tribes as well as offering larvicides to several tribes. Seven human cases of WNV have been reported on the San Carlos Apache Tribe Reservation this year. 108 cases have been reported statewide both on and off reservations. On the San Carlos Apache Tribe Reservation, most of the mosquito breeding/source was coming from backyard containers and clutter that trapped rainwater. This makes a larviciding response impossible and public education critical.

Outcomes: TB meetings were successful as judged by attendance by tribes and other TB programs statewide and program evaluations. The information shared will assist in maintaining professional development and local expertise. Despite activities to reduce RMSF and WNV, outbreaks have continued.

Upcoming activities/plans: The ADHS TB Program will be providing a TB Update Training for the Navajo Nation TB staff on December 18 in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Office of Environment Health

Goal: To assist the Risk Assessment Program/Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR) grantee at Gila River Indian Reservation.

Action Taken: A new employee was hired at Gila River Indian Reservation to conduct environmental risk assessments and health consultations. OEH's Risk Assessment and Health Consultations program is also an ATSDR grantee. The program has been providing training and assistance to the Gila River employee on the processes to develop and write risk assessments and health consultations. Staff have been meeting on a monthly basis since August.

Outcome: Staff from both programs have developed a good working relationship and will effectively collaborate on environmental risk assessments or health consultations that may arise between the state and tribe.

Upcoming activities/plans: Continue to work and train as needed by the Gila River program.

Arizona Immunization Program (AIP)

AIP - Perinatal Hepatitis B Program

Goal: To prevent the spread hepatitis B infection among Native American newborns and their mothers.

Action Taken: A perinatal hepatitis B presentation was delivered to the Gila River Indian Community at the Laveen community.

Outcome: The Health Educators are prepared to educate Native American women about perinatal hepatitis B infection and the hepatitis B vaccine. These Health Educators will work in the Gila River Indian Community clinics and out in the community.

AIP - Adult Immunizations

Goal: Increase awareness among disabled Native Americans about the health advantages of adult vaccinations.

Action: Immunization Program staff served on the planning and program development committees for the Native American Disability Summit Conference on March 18, 2009.

AIP - Assessment

Goal: Improve immunization rates of Native American children.

Actions Taken

- The Immunization Program Office mailed immunization literature to healthcare providers and schools located in reservation communities. The literature informed healthcare personnel and school personnel about recommended and required immunizations; specific literature explaining the purpose of the new meningococcal and pertussis vaccinations for 11-12 year olds was included.
- The immunization coverage levels of 11-15 year olds who receive health care at six Indian Health Service (IHS) clinics in four different Arizona counties were assessed in October 2008 to determine the coverage levels for Tdap, meningococcal, and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines. The assessment was completed as a follow up to assessments conducted at same sites in 2007. The purpose of the 2008 assessment was to determine the impact of a new state mandate for 11-12 year olds to receive meningococcal and Tdap vaccines to enter sixth grade.

Outcomes: Immunization coverage levels of 11-15 year olds receiving health care at six IHS clinics increased after immunization literature was sent to schools and a mandate meningococcal and Tdap vaccines was implemented. From 2007 to 2008, the coverage levels increased from 6% to 42% for meningococcal vaccine, from 37% to 42% for Tdap, and from 10% to 43% for HPV, the vaccine that was not included in the school mandate.

AIP - Arizona State Immunization Information System

Goal: Continuing bi-directional data exchange between Arizona State Immunization Information System (ASIIS) and I.H.S. Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS) to assure accurate immunization records in both databases.

Action Taken: Ongoing data quality checks with sites (Chinle, Sells, San Xavier, and Santa Rosa) that are piloting a new version of the application. Four additional sites (Gallup, Tuba City, Fort Defiance, and Winslow) migrated to the new version of the application during this quarter. A listing of individual users' access rights was provided to the I.H.S. Immunization Registry Coordinator in anticipation of future migration of all sites. Once the migration is complete, access to the ASIIS application will be limited to view-only as opposed to the ability to update records in ASIIS. All data will be entered directly into the RPMS in anticipation of electronic transmission to ASIIS.

Outcomes: This process will greatly improve the data quality from the reporting sites. Complete immunization records will be available with less duplication of effort in both databases, since ASIIS provides information regarding immunizations administered at other I.H.S. sites within the State of Arizona.

Upcoming activities/plans: It is anticipated that additional sites will migrate to new version of the application and receive bi-directional exchange of data within next few months.

Division of Licensing Services

Action Taken

Mary Wiley, Assistant Director, Alan Oppenheim, Deputy Assistant Director, and staff from Special Licensing, Medical Facilities, and Assisted Living Programs met with Michael Allison, ADHS Native American Liaison, and representatives from AHCCCS to discuss tribal certification of programs, facilities and services for Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement and the role the Division would or could play in those processes.

Division of Behavioral Health Services

Office of Clinical Practice Improvement

Goal: Provide culturally competent substance abuse treatment training to staff who work predominantly with Native American adolescents.

Actions Taken:

- DBHS requires each Tribal and Regional Behavioral Health Authority (T/RBHA) to identify the Substance Abuse services needed for each Tribal Nation within their Geographic Service Area (GSA) and incorporate the needed services into their Children's System of Care (CSOC) Plans. As a direct result, each RBHA has incorporated expansion goals into their CSOC plans. Such expansion goals include training efforts in the area of culturally appropriate, evidence-based training for substance abuse treatment.
- DBHS sent out a request for proposals to the T/RBHA's to provide evidenced-based training to clinical staff and tribal members which focused on the treatment of substance abuse among Native American youth. Two RBHA's submitted proposals: Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) and Cenpatico. Both RBHA's requested and were approved for the funding of two White Bison trainings titled, *"The Medicine Wheel & 12 Steps for Youth"*. This training was chosen because it is designed specifically for Native American youth and is needed to help provider staff, tribal staff and community members learn skills to facilitate the training within their communities.
- Each RBHA was responsible in selecting RBHA staff, Tribal staff members, and community members to attend the trainings. Additionally, each RBHA was responsible for selecting training locations in areas with higher populations of Native Americans. Funding was made possible through the Child and Adolescent State Infrastructure Grant (CA-SIG), which is housed within the Office of Clinical Practice Improvement.
- Training in this area was needed in order to increase knowledge about Native American culture among treatment providers, to increase their knowledge of best practices when working with the Native American population and to increase available services that are targeted specifically for the Native American population.

Outcomes:

NARBHA training outcomes were as follows:

1. *Second Mesa on the Hopi Reservation*, held July 9 through July 11, 2008. There were 18 participants in the training. Evaluations were completed by 16 of the 18 participants. All 16 of the evaluations rated the course as "outstanding", which is the highest possible rating on the form.
2. *Window Rock on the Navajo Reservation*, held August 5 through August 8, 2008. There were 9 participants in the training. Evaluations were completed by

8 of the 9 participants. There were 7 “outstanding” ratings and 1 “useful ideas” rating which is one score under “outstanding”.

Cenpatico training outcomes are as follows:

1. *Yuma, Arizona, near the Cocopah Indian Reservation*, held August 19-21, 2008; there were 12 participants consisting of providers, RBHA staff, and family/peer support partners.
2. *Globe, Arizona, near the San Carlos Apache Reservation*, held September 16-18, 2008; there were 15 participants consisting of providers and community members of the San Carlos and White Mountain Apache tribes. 11 of the participants rated the training as “5=Outstanding” and 4 participants rated the training as being “4=Useful Ideas.”

Upcoming activities/plans: NARBHA’s plans are to continue to develop the White Bison Program by tribal communities through a grass roots approach while being supported by local behavioral health agencies as well as tribal governments. NARBHA plans to request additional CA-SIG funding to support further *Medicine Wheel & 12 Steps for Youth* trainings for their region.

Cenpatico indicates that this training will be reviewed by tribal member attendees to determine how the program can be adapted and applied to meet the needs of the local tribes. Cenpatico will continue to support the local tribal behavioral health programs in implementing this program within their communities.